

MONTHLY NOTES

OF

The Library Association of the United Kingdom.

Contents:—Official Notices—January Monthly Meeting: Paper by Mr. Ernest C. Thomas, "The Distribution of Public Documents to Libraries in the United States"—The New Bodleian Cataloguing Rules—Library Notes—Catalogues and Reports—Notices of Books—Correspondence.

THE next MONTHLY MEETING of the Association will be held at the London Institution, on Friday, February 2nd, 1883, at 8 P.M., when Papers will be read by Mr. C. W. SUTTON, on "Free Public Libraries in 1882" and by Mr. H. R. TEDDER on "The Bibliography of 1882."

It has been decided to continue the publication of MONTHLY NOTES for the next twelve months, and Mr. Ernest Thomas has been requested to continue his services as Hon. Editor. With the present number is issued an Eight-page Supplement, containing the Revised List of Members for the present year.

At the Council and at the Monthly Meeting held on the 5th of January, resolutions were passed expressing the regret felt by the Association at the death of Mr. William Brace, LL.B.

At the January Council it was resolved to hold a Special Council Meeting on Friday, 26th January, to consider the steps proper to be taken to cause the Distribution of Public Documents to Free Public Libraries.

A Sub-Committee of Council has been appointed to settle the details of the proposed Examination for Library Assistants.

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING.

The fourth Monthly Meeting of the Sixth Year of the Association was held at the London Institution, on Friday, January 5th at 8 P.M. Mr. R. HARRISON, Treasurer (afterwards Mr. J. YATES) in the chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting having been read and confirmed, it was announced that Mr. D. R. CHAPMAN, Librarian, Free Public Library and Museum, Hereford, had joined the Association.

The following gentlemen were duly proposed and seconded for election at the next Monthly Meeting: Mr. EDWARD M. BORRAJO, 22, Haverstock Hill, N.W., proposed by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, seconded by the Secretary; Mr. BERNARD B. WOODWARD, of the British Museum of Natural History, proposed by Mr. Richard Garnett, seconded by the Secretary; Rev. CECIL DAVIS, proposed by the Treasurer, seconded by Mr. H. R. Tedder.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Tedder, and resolved: "That this Meeting of Members of the L.A.U.K. desire to express their regret at the loss sustained by the death of their much respected Member, Mr. W. Brace."

In the absence of the writer, the Chairman called upon Mr. Tedder to read the Paper by Mr. ERNEST C. THOMAS on

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS TO
LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

It appears to be considered by very many people in this country, that the distribution of public documents in the United States, is carried on in a very satisfactory way. A writer in one of the Leeds newspapers, not very long ago, observed that "in France and the United States, two copies of all the Government publications are sent to each rate-aided library in the country gratis," and we were advised to take a leaf out of the book of our American cousins. Even Mr. Axon in the paper he read before us in 1879, drew a comparison between English and American methods in this matter, very greatly in favour of the latter.

It is interesting to observe that the compliments thus paid have in each instance been gently deprecated by the conductors of the *Library Journal*, as the mouthpiece of American Librarians. I have thought that, as we are about to consider what steps should be taken to secure a proper distribution of Documents published at the national expense to our rate-supported libraries in this country, it might not be inopportune to consider what is the state of things in the United States in reference to this important question.

I think it may be assumed that even before the American Library Association had begun its labours, the mind of American Librarians had begun to be exercised on this subject. In the very first number



of the *Library Journal*, issued before the Philadelphia Conference, Mr. Melvil Dewey drew attention to it.

At the first Annual Meeting of the Association held in New York, in September, 1877, the question was discussed by Mr. Spofford, who spoke of the "present disgraceful condition, if I may be allowed to use so strong a term, of the laws for the distribution of publications of the Government of the United States. The Statutes require the Secretary of the Interior . . . to distribute them to Public Libraries in the country, on the recommendation and nomination of the members of Congress, one copy to some Library in each Congressional district, with certain restrictions. That work badly, because there is no continuity of supplies for the libraries . . ."

At that Meeting a Committee was appointed to deal with the subject, consisting of Messrs. Spofford, S. S. Green, and Langworthy (who was afterwards replaced by Mr. Lee.)

Early in 1878, Senator Hoare introduced a Bill before the Senate, "to encourage the formation of Free Public Libraries." It provided "that whenever any Public Library shall be registered in the Department of the Interior, and shall prove to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior that it contains 10,000 volumes, and is free to the use of the public under reasonable regulations, it shall be entitled to receive a copy of every public document or other book printed for public distribution." This Bill appears to have been read twice, but no further progress appears to have been made with it.

The Committee appointed at the New York Conference, presented an elaborate Report to the Washington Conference, where it appears to have been fully discussed. (See *Library Journal*, vi, pp. 86—90, discussion pp. 129, 130.)

From the information collected in this Report, it appears that by the existing laws of the United States relating to this subject, 423 copies of the executive documents are sent to the Department of the Interior, to be distributed to State and Territorial Libraries, to Incorporated Public Libraries, Athenæums, Colleges, Boards of Trade, &c. *designated as Depositories* by Senators and Members of the House of Representatives. Upon this two remarks may be made:

In the first place the Libraries, &c. designated, are only entitled to receive these documents if the Secretary of the Interior has a sufficient number of sets to supply them, so that in the nature of things, many Libraries must be totally excluded. The entire number of sets it has been seen, is only 423; and the Committee estimate that there are perhaps 600 Libraries fairly entitled to receive such documents besides those which now receive documents by law.

In the second place the provision of law is capable of an interpretation which would allow the Congressmen to change the Library designated every Congress, so that it might become necessary for persons wishing to study the documents of a series of years to go to several libraries in succession in order to do so.

The Committee recommended that such alterations should be made

in the law as would secure that when a Library had once been designated, it should continue to be a depository entitled to receive such documents until it ceased to be a proper place of deposit. They thought that the law should be so amended that not only executive documents, but all books, pamphlets and maps ordered by Congress to be printed should be sent to these designated Libraries. They were unable to formulate a recommendation which should include the delivery to them of all important documents issued by the various departments and bureaus of the Government. They concluded by recommending as a first step that a Committee should be empowered to draft a bill dealing with certain portions of the subject.

The Report of the Committee was adopted, and seven further resolutions were carried after a protracted discussion, of which two only need be quoted as mainly pertinent to our present purpose: That we specially desire as early as possible (1) That all documents for public Libraries be distributed through one agency . . . (2) That a list of Libraries in addition to the State Libraries be designated to receive all public documents regularly and independently of the will of individual members of Congress.

A Committee of five was appointed "to try to secure from Congress such changes as shall best serve the interests of the Libraries of the country." This Committee accordingly drafted two bills. Of these the first provided that a complete set of documents should be sent (1) to each State Library and (2) that one Library in each Congressional district, and two Libraries in each State should be designated by the representatives and senators respectively to receive all documents except bills and resolves, and finally that the documents should be sent (3) to all Libraries in the United States of over 100,000 volumes—provided that each Library should promise to preserve them permanently and freely accessible to the general public. The second Bill provided for the publication of a list of all documents issued from 1st December, 1871, to 1st December, 1881, to be continued by quarterly lists.

From the latest statement on the subject by Mr. S. S. Green, the Chairman of this Committee (*Library Journal*, vol. vii., 226, Sept., 1882), we learn that the Bill was approved by the Executive Board of the American Library Association, but the member of the committee representing the Department Libraries at Washington, Dr. J. S. Billings, disliked it. The whole matter appears to have been laid before the Senate Committee on Printing, and in the result a joint resolution of Congress was passed, embodying provisions identical with those recommended by Dr. Billings. The Resolution was as follows:—"Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives, &c., That whenever any document or report shall be ordered to be printed by Congress, there shall be in addition to the number in each case stated, the usual number of copies for binding and distribution among those entitled to receive them."

The "usual number" refers to the 423 sets above referred to as furnished to the Secretary of the Interior, and the effect of the resolution is to carry out the recommendation of the First Committee of

the American Library Association so far as relates to the extension of the distribution to all documents ordered to be printed, and not to executive documents only.

Nothing seems to have been done to carry out the other recommendations of the Committee, or to guard against the evil of a haphazard distribution to libraries according to the caprice of Congressmen. Mr. Green nevertheless thinks that Libraries may, on the whole, feel reasonably well satisfied with the beginning which has been made in providing for their wants. He concludes with the following words, which may not be altogether without significance for us:—"It is evident that the efforts of the American Library Association have directly or indirectly had much to do in helping along the reform which is progressing in the method adopted in distributing public documents, and also in procuring printed lists of current and late publications of the United States Government."

After a brief discussion a vote of thanks to the writer of the paper was passed and the Meeting adjourned.

THE NEW BODLEIAN CATALOGUING RULES.

[We have thought the issue of a new Code of Rules for the use of the Cataloguers at the Bodleian expressly based upon our own Code, a matter of such importance, that we may well afford the space necessary to compare the two Codes in detail. We print here, accordingly, the Bodleian Rules, considered as a recension of the rules of the L. A. U. K. The new matter introduced by Bodley's Librarian, as well as the more important alterations made by him, are printed in SMALL CAPITALS, with the Association Rule in square brackets. We hope that the comparison thus instituted may be found of value and interest. In our next we propose to say something on the points of variance between the two Codes.—ED.]

Compendious Cataloguing Rules for the Author-Catalogue of the Bodleian Library.

Title.

1. The title to be an exact transcript from the titlepage, not amended, translated, or in any way altered, except that mottoes, repetitions, and matter of any kind not essential may be omitted—omissions to be indicated by a group of three dots (. . .): BUT THE NAME OF AN AUTHOR OR EDITOR, IF IT OCCUR ON THE TITLEPAGE IN THE SAME FORM AS IN THE HEADING, MAY BE OMITTED IF NO AMBIGUITY BE OCCASIONED THEREBY; AND FORENAMES WHICH ARE GIVEN IN FULL IN THE HEADING MAY BE REPRESENTED BY INITIALS IN THE ENTRY OF THE TITLE. The typography and punctuation of the title need not be strictly adhered to. All anonymous works of which the author is known are to have the abbreviation 'Anon.' added in square brackets. [L. A. puts the last provision in rule 10.]

2. The titles of works especially valuable for antiquity or rarity

may be given in full, WITH ALL PRACTICABLE EXACTNESS [L. A.—with the exact punctuation.]

3. In English, initial capitals are to be given to proper names of persons and personifications, places, societies, noted events and periods; to adjectives and other words derived from proper names when they have a direct reference to the person, place, &c., from which they are derived; and to the first word of every quoted title of a work [L. A.—to titles of honour, when standing instead of a proper name, *e. g.*, Earl of Derby, but John Stanley, earl of Derby.]

4. In other [L. A.—foreign] languages the use of capitals is to follow the local practice.

5. In doubtful cases capitals are to be avoided.

Volumes, Place, Date, Size, &c.

6. Other particulars are to be given after the title in the following order:—

(i) The edition as specified on the titlepage.

(ii) The number of volumes, if more than one.

(iii) The place of publication—followed by the place of printing, when different from that of publication, in brackets. IN THE CASE OF BOOKS OF THE 15TH AND 16TH CENTURIES OR OF SPECIAL VALUE OR RARITY, THE NAMES OF THE PUBLISHER AND PRINTER ARE TO BE ADDED AFTER THE ABOVE ENTRIES RESPECTIVELY.

(iv) The date, as given on the titlepage, in Arabic figures.

(v) The size.

[L. A.: (c) *Number of pp.*; if only one vol. (d) *Number of separate illustrations, etc.* (e) *Size.* (f) *Place of publication.* (g) *Date.* Those particulars printed in italics are optional.]

Language of Title and Imprint.

7. Title- and imprint-entries are to be as far as possible in the language of the title, but additions [L. A.—alterations and additions] are to be in English, enclosed in brackets. [L. A.—square brackets.]

Contents and Notes.

8. Contents of volumes are to be given when expedient.

9. Notes, explanatory or illustrative, or descriptive of bibliographical and other peculiarities, including imperfections, are to be added when necessary [L. A.—tables of contents and notes to be in smaller type.]

Headings and Cross-references.

Books are to be entered:—

10. Under the surnames of authors, when stated on the titlepage or otherwise certainly known, followed by the forename and other necessary prefixes in round brackets. [L. A.—A name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation “Anon.” added.]

11. WHEN ONLY THE INITIALS OR PSEUDONYM OF AN AUTHOR OCCUR IN THE BOOK, IT IS ALSO TO BE REGARDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEADINGS AS ANONYMOUS ; AND A CROSS-REFERENCE IS TO BE MADE FROM THE INITIALS OR PSEUDONYM TO THE FIRST HEADING, the last initial being placed first, followed by the others in round brackets [L. A.—A name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.]

12. Under the pseudonyms of the writers, unless the book be already entered under two headings, in which case a cross-reference is to be made from the pseudonym to the first heading. [L. A.—a name not stated in the book or in a subsequent edition of it to be placed within square brackets, and all anonymous works to have the abbreviation "Anon." added.]

13. Under the names of editors of collections, and under the catch-titles of such collections ; the parts are to be at the same time sufficiently catalogued under their own headings.

14. Under the names of countries, cities, societies, &c., which cause them to be published [L. A.—authorize their publication.]

15. Under the chief word or words [L. A.—the first word not an article] of the titles of periodicals.

16. Under the first striking word [L. A.—chief subject-word] or words of the titles of anonymous works, with a cross-reference, where advisable, from any other noticeable word or catch-title. IF THE NAME OF A WRITER OCCUR IN A WORK but not on the titlepage, the work is also to be regarded for the purpose of headings as anonymous [L. A. The latter instruction is part of Rule 10.]

17. Commentaries with the text, EDITIONS OF THE TEXT, and translations are to be entered (1) under the heading of the original work, AND (2) UNDER THE NAME OF THE COMMENTATOR, EDITOR, OR TRANSLATOR [L. A.—under the name of the commentator] ; commentaries without the text are to be entered under the same two headings, the second being placed first.

18. Editions of the entire Bible, with or without the Apocrypha, are to be entered under the word *Bible* : EDITIONS OF PARTS OF THE BIBLE COMPRISING MORE THAN ONE BOOK UNDER THE WORDS *Testament (Old)*, *Apocrypha*, *Testament (New)*, OR LESSER DIVISIONS SUCH AS *Pentateuch*, *Historical books*, *Hagiographa*, *Prophets*, *Gospels*, *Paul the apostle*, *Epistles (General)*.

[L. A.—18. The Bible, or any part of it (including the Apocrypha) in any language, is to be under the word "Bible," the separate parts classed in the order of the authorized version, polyglots and original texts coming first, followed by English translations ; the other versions in alphabet of names of the languages.]

19. The Talmud and Koran (and parts of them) are to be entered under those words.

20. The sacred books of other religions are to be entered under the names by which they are generally known. [L. A. adds—cross references to be given from the names of editors, translators, &c.]

21. Service- and prayer-books of the Church of England are to be

entered under the names by which they are commonly known, such as *Prayer (Book of common)*, *Baptism (Order of)*, *Communion (Holy)* &c.: those of the Church of Rome in like manner under *Missal*, *Breviary*, *Hours*, &c., with a sub-heading of the use. Service-books of other religious communities are to be entered under the head of *Liturgies*, with a sub-heading of the religious community.

[L. A.—20. Service and Prayer-Books used by any religious community are to be placed under the head of *Liturgies*, with a sub-head of the religious community.]

22. Books having more than one author or editor are to be entered under the one first named in the title, with at least SUFFICIENT CROSS-REFERENCE [L. A.—with a cross-reference under each of the others.]

N.B.—SEPARATE MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS, ACCOMPANIED BY WORDS, ARE TO BE ENTERED UNDER THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORS AND TRANSLATORS OF THE WORDS (UNLESS THESE ARE TAKEN FROM THE BIBLE OR A PUBLIC SERVICE-BOOK) AS WELL AS UNDER THOSE OF THE AUTHORS AND EDITORS OF THE MUSIC.

23. Names of translators, commentators, editors, and preface-writers, if they do not occur in the titlepage, may be added in brackets, a further heading or cross-reference being made when necessary. [L.A.—a cross-reference being made in each case.]

24. In the case of an academical thesis the *praeses* is to be considered as the author, unless the work unequivocally appears to be the work of the respondent or defender. [L. A. exactly reverses this.]

25. Reports of civil actions are to be entered under the name of the party to the suit which stands first on the titlepage. Reports of Crown and criminal proceedings are to be entered under the name of the defendant. Admiralty proceedings relating to vessels are to be entered under the name of the vessel.

26. Catalogues are to be entered under the name of the compiler—also, as circumstances require, under the names of one or more of the institutions or persons now or formally owning the collection, and, where desirable, under the name of the collection itself [L. A.—under the name of the institution, or owner, with a cross-reference from the compiler.]

27. Noblemen are to be entered under the title, except when the family-name is better known; a cross-reference from the one to the other being made in every case.

28. Ecclesiastical dignitaries; unless Popes or RULING [L. A.—sovereign] Princes, are to be entered under their surnames; their current and highest subsequent title to be added [L. A.—with a cross-reference from the title employed in the book.]

29. All persons generally known by a forename are to be so entered, the English form being preferred in the case of ruling Princes, Popes, Oriental writers, friars, and persons canonized.

30. Married women and other persons who have changed their names are to be put under THE LAST WELL-KNOWN NAME [L. A.—name best known], with a cross reference from OTHER [L. A.—the last] authorized names.

31. In the headings of titles the names of authors are to be given in full, and in their vernacular form: but authors generally known under their Latin or Latinized names may be [L. A.—are to be] entered under those names, a cross-reference being made from the vernacular form.

32. English and French surnames beginning with a prefix OR PREFIXES are to be recorded under the FIRST prefix, and surnames in other languages under the word following the LAST prefix—except that French names beginning with *de* or *d'* are to be entered under the word following *de* or *d'*.

33. English compound surnames, NOT CONNECTED BY AN HYPHEN, are to be entered under the last part of the names [L. A.—under first part]: foreign ones, WITH OR WITHOUT HYPHENS, UNDER THE ENTIRE COMPOUND NAME, cross references being given in all instances.

34. When an author has been known by more than one name, references are to be inserted from the name or names not used as headings to the one used.

35. A society is to be entered under the leading word or words of its corporate name, with cross-reference from any other name by which it is well known. [L. A.—and from the name of the place where its head-quarters are established.]

(To be concluded.)

LIBRARY NOTES.

BURNLEY.—On New Year's Day was commenced a week's celebration of the jubilee of the Burnley Mechanics' Institution, which was founded by four working men, whose first subscription amounted to a shilling, and which now has sixteen hundred members, a library of over eleven thousand volumes, elementary science and art classes very largely attended, and property free from debt valued at £14,000. The festivities began with a banquet presided over by Dr. Brumwell, J.P., who suggested that the Institution be extended and formed into a working man's college, in order that the working people of the town and district might be able to graduate from the institution to the Victoria University. This suggestion was heartily taken up by the speakers who followed.

GLASGOW.—In the *Glasgow Herald* of 26th December appears the sixth and concluding paper of the series of articles on "Stirling's Library," which have been contributed by Mr. Thomas Mason, the Librarian. This final instalment deals with the general position and probable prospects of the Library. It appears that the number of members, which had never previously risen above 320, is now over 500, 336 of whom have been added within the last eighteen months. It is expected that the issues of the present year will be double those of last year, and quadruple those of the preceding year. Mr. Mason suggests the desirability of combining the Mitchell Library and Stirling's Library under a single roof, without otherwise affecting the individuality of either institution. Mr. Mason has furnished a

useful contribution to library history and economy, and we should be very glad to see the articles reprinted.

HULL.—The polling on the question of the adoption of the Free Libraries Acts took place on Saturday, December 16, when the proposal to adopt the Acts was rejected. The voting was, For the adoption, 4212; Against, 5889; majority against, 1677. The number of abstentions was very large, and the result is attributed to the defection and apathy of many of the ratepayers. It is noticeable that the number of voters was not greater than the number of those who signed the requisition calling upon the Mayor to summon a public meeting, at which, moreover, the opponents of the movement were a very small minority.

LONDON: BRITISH MUSEUM.—The turning of the Museum Catalogues into print has proceeded so far as very appreciably to affect the point on which Mr. Garnett has always laid so much stress. The printing of the Map Catalogue means a gain of at least 50 volumes of Catalogue. By the work done on the General Catalogue a space of 23 feet of shelving had been gained up to October. The printing is not now done as at first on the paper of which the volumes are made, but on thin paper, which is then pasted down, by which a saving of one-sixth is effected in the cost of printing. This was found, however, to increase inconveniently the weight of the Catalogue volumes, and accordingly these are not made so thick.

LONDON: BRENTFORD.—In consequence of the great success which has attended the establishment of free public libraries at Richmond, Twickenham, and Kingston, a movement has been set on foot with a view to the adoption of the Libraries Acts at the neighbouring town of Brentford. The Executive Committee has issued an address to the inhabitants of the town setting forth the advantages to be derived from the adoption of the Acts, and a Public Meeting of ratepayers and others was held on January 10th.

MANCHESTER LITERARY CLUB.—The Second Half Session of the Manchester Literary Club was opened on Monday, January 8th, when Mr. Chancellor Christie read a Paper on the Marquis of Morante, his Library and its Catalogue. The Marquis was the greatest bibliophile Spain has ever produced, and he collected the largest private library of the nineteenth century. He was born in 1808, and died in 1868, and during his life-time had amassed over 120,000 volumes,—chiefly of the Latin Classics, and books bearing upon Latin Literature and Philology. He died from the effects of a fall from a ladder in his library, and his great collections were dispersed. He prepared himself and printed a Catalogue of his library, which with its Supplements, extends to nine vols. octavo. Chancellor Christie's Paper was a very graphic and characteristic portrait of a curiously interesting personality, and a valuable contribution to literary history. We regret that our limits confine us to this brief account of it, and we are glad to know that the Paper is to be printed in full. A discussion followed, in which the Chairman

(Mr. Geo. Milner), Mr. W. E. A. Axon, Mr. E. C. Thomas and Mr. H. H. Howorth took part.

MANCHESTER: MEDICAL SOCIETY. — At the Annual Business Meeting of the Society (January 10th) it was reported that the Library had had an accession of 1,054 volumes, making the total number of volumes, now in the Library, 27,298. The issues for the year were to members, 1,449 volumes, and to students 5,980 volumes. Mr. T. Windsor, as Chairman of the Library Committee, continues to superintend the Library as a whole, and Dr. Lindemann is making rapid progress with the compilation of the new Catalogue.

OLDHAM. — It is intended next summer to hold a fine art and industrial exhibition at Oldham, after the model of the Bradford Exhibition. The Town Clerk has already been instructed by the Museum and Free Library Committee to apply to the South Kensington authorities for loans of works of art for decorative and exhibition purposes. The fine arts will be exhibited in the new museum building, now being erected at a cost of £10,000, and the mechanical appliances will be shown in a wooden structure to be erected on the land adjoining.

OXFORD: BODLEIAN LIBRARY. — The Curators have sanctioned an experiment which not only gives a large immediate increase of staff, but tends indirectly to realize the idea of making the Bodleian a training-school for library-assistants. Six boys have been engaged as under-assistants, working six hours daily, and receiving 10s. a week: their salary will not be increased, and so in a few years they will necessarily leave, and give place to a new set—but they will be encouraged and helped to qualify for library-assistantships elsewhere, and to gain the certificate of the L. A. U. K. As they were required to have a fair knowledge of Latin, and some knowledge of French, to start with; as the lightness of their hours leaves them time for self-improvement; and as the pressure of work necessitates quickness no less than the character of the Bodleian necessitates extreme accuracy, it is hoped that public and other libraries may be inclined to look to the Bodleian as a source from which they can draw exceptionally well qualified junior assistants.

The Curators have agreed that the statute under which the Bodleian building is closed on certain days does not compel the closing of the Camera Bodleiana, where the great mass of readers pursue their studies: the Camera was consequently open on November 7 and 8, December 27-30, and January 1 and 6—days on which the entire library has hitherto been closed. They have further appointed a committee to consider the advisability of asking the University to alter the statute as regards the Bodleian building, so as to minimize the number of closed days.

The formation of the enormous subject-catalogue is making rapid progress, some £350 having been paid in the last seven months to a special staff for the sorting of title-slips. On December 8 the first sub-class was finished: it was "English trials for witchcraft," and a chronological arrangement was adopted, the trials being already

found under the names of the accused persons in the alphabetical catalogue.

The Librarian has proposed to the Curators the purchase of a small press, and the substitution of print for writing in all future cataloguing: the proposal will be considered immediately.

A system of exchanges has been established by which it is hoped that the dissertations of all continental universities will be obtained—not merely, as at present, those of the Prussian universities and Strassburg. The cataloguing of such dissertations has been resumed, and the music received under the Copyright Act is also being catalogued now. A volume to volume examination of the famous Douce collection having shown the incompleteness of its cataloguing (executed half a century ago), many, more or less rare works are likewise being added to the catalogue.

Among the important MS. purchases of the last few months may be mentioned a collection of Armenian gospels and service-books, which doubles the number of Armenian MSS. in the library.

PARIS.—A special commission, which has been recently appointed by the Prefecture of the Seine to consider the organisation and working of the popular municipal libraries of Paris and the department of the Seine, held its first meeting on December 6th. An interesting report from M. Dardenne, Chef du bureau des bibliothèques, was read, and was ordered to be printed. The commission proposes to supplement the existing municipal libraries by establishing a library in each *quartier*, employing for this purpose the building attached to the communal schools. It is proposed also to develop the Fine-art element in connexion with these libraries, so that drawings and chromo-lithographs illustrating furniture, decorations and costumes, may be at the disposition of the Parisian work-people, and also to extend the lending of music, which has been tried with so much success.

During the year ending October last the municipal libraries of Paris have increased from 17 to 21, there being two in one arrondissement. The issues for the year were—books used in the libraries 79,879, lent out 283,443. The proportion of fiction was large, and 8 out of the 21 libraries lent music. The yearly grant amounted to 110,000 frs.

STOCKPORT.—At the last meeting of the Town Council (Jan. 10) a committee was appointed to consider the desirability of holding an Art Exhibition in Stockport, in connexion with the Free Library. Measures also being taken to extend and improve the Free Library. Mr. Buckland, the Librarian, desires us to announce that it has been determined in future to publish the Library Report not in September, but together with the other Corporation Reports in March.

TORONTO.—An appeal to the ratepayers of Toronto on the question of the establishment of a rate-supported free library in that city resulted on the 1st January in 5,332 votes For and 2,846 Against, a majority of 2,486 in favour of the scheme.

We much regret to announce the death of our esteemed Member, Mr. William Brace, which occurred, after a short illness, on the 19th of December. He was in expectation of being shortly called to the Bar, for which profession he was well fitted by a long course of legal studies, and the practical knowledge of conveyancing, particularly of ancient forms of tenure, which he had gained during his appointment at the Stepney Manor Office. He possessed a thorough acquaintance with ancient records, and had been engaged for the last few years upon the archives of the Drapers' Company. He was also lately occupied in transcribing, for Mr. Edwin Freshfield, the Registers of the parish of St. Christopher-le-Stocks; and has left unfinished a transcript of a collection of letters addressed to the geographer Ortelius, of Antwerp, by his learned contemporaries of the 16th century, which he was preparing for the Consistory of the Dutch Church in London. These letters are preserved together with the Dutch Church Library, of which they form a part, in the Guildhall Library, and the Catalogue of the Collection published in 1869, was chiefly the work of Mr. Brace. He took a great interest in library work, and will be remembered as Editor of this Journal during the first two years, and as one of our Auditors. Those of our readers who knew his amiable disposition and willingness to help others will regret his loss.

A Meeting of the members of the Metropolitan Free Libraries Association, was held at 12 Pall Mall East, on the 22nd of December, Mr. Edwd. J. Watherston in the Chair. It was resolved to take vigorous action in the new year, and Mr. H. R. Tedder was elected Honorary Secretary, in succession to Mr. E. B. Nicholson.

The German citizens of Baltimore are about to present the late Professor Bluntschli's library to the Johns Hopkins University.

The *Daily News* observes that "it is not generally known that one of the first acts a new Primate is called upon to perform is either to deposit or give security for £10,000, as a guarantee for the safe custody of the magnificent library at Lambeth Palace."

The new number of the *Library Journal* admits the justice of Mr. Tedder's remarks in our October number. Mr. Cutter says: "We are more practical and the English more antiquarian. In consequence the American papers are 'drier,' and interest a smaller circle of readers. The cause must lie in our character, for we believe that each programme Committee has, like the English, accepted every paper that has been presented to it. [This is not quite true of the English Committee, by the way.] . . . The *Library Journal* has had the same experience. In nearly seven years only two papers of an antiquarian character have been written for it"—and one of these was by Mr. Axon! The principal articles of the present number are one on the "Proposed New National Library," and a "Classification of Library Economy and History" by Mr. Cutter.

LIBRARY CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.

Supplementary Catalogue of the Books in that portion of the Bolton Free Library, forming the Free Reference Department. By James K. Waite. Bolton, 1882. 8vo, pp. 139.

An alphabetical catalogue of authors and titles. The most noticeable feature of the catalogue is the appendix containing the most extensive list we remember to have seen of "Novels, Tales, &c., with the Magazine in which they originally appeared."

Catalogue of Books in the Library of the Unitarian Home Missionary Board, Memorial Hall, Manchester. 1882. Price Sixpence. 8vo, pp. iv.-76.

A neatly printed author-catalogue, which might serve at least as a foundation for a Unitarian bibliography. "In drawing up this catalogue use has been made of slips prepared by Mr. W. E. A. Axon for a classified Catalogue, a copy of which, in manuscript, is kept at the Memorial Hall."

Jarrow-on-Tyne. Eighteenth Annual Report of the Jarrow Public Hall and Institute, 1881-82. 8vo, pp. 16.

The committee report that the Institute is financially prosperous, though they have to regret a considerable decrease of membership. The readers during the year have numbered 700, and the issues have been 8,840, a decrease of 136. There are now 2,540 volumes in the library.

Aberdeen. Handbook of the Aberdeen Mechanics' Institution for 1882-83, and Report of the Institution for 1881-82. Aberdeen, 1882. 8vo, pp. 26.

The directors announce that it is proposed that the Educational part of the institution should be absorbed into that of Robert Gordon's, while it is proposed to offer the Library to the Town Council (as to which some information will be found elsewhere in our present number). They report that the Library has fallen off very much during the year. The quarterly average of readers has been 699 against 873 last year, and the year's income has been £231 0s. 9½d. against £277 11s. 6¼d. last year. The number of volumes in the Library is 16,729.

Leamington, Free Public Library. Chairman's Annual Report. [Reprinted from the "*Leamington News*." Dated October 26, 1882]. 4to, pp. 2.

Dr. Thursfield reports another change of premises, making two removals in nine years at a cost of over £250. The income was £547 2s. 2d., and the expenditure £532 9s. 6d. The expenditure upon new books, owing to the expenses of removal, was very small. The issues from the Lending Library were 45,490 against 46,074 last year, a decrease due to the longer closing of the Library this year. The issues in the Reference Library were 5,606 against 6,542 last year. The number of volumes in the Libraries is now 11,971. The Chairman concludes by urging the need of a better home, and more liberal donations of useful books.

City of Boston [U. S.] Thirtieth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, 1882. 8vo, pp. 69.

The Trustees report that the aggregate number of volumes embraced in the Bates Hall collection is 254,431, in the Lower Hall 37,186; in the branches 112,604, making a total of 404,221, a net increase for the year of 13,239. The issues for the year shows a decrease of 24,528 vols. taken from the shelves, amounting in 1880-1 to 1,065,081, and 1881-2 to 1,040,553. The delivery of periodicals at the Central Library and 5 branches shows 492,090 (previous year

520,672). The Boylston Street Reading room furnished 374,246. The City appropriations amounted to \$115,000, the expenditure to \$120,950-72. A site for the proposed new library building has not yet been secured, and the Trustees urge the necessity of prompt action. Appended are reports from Mr. Furness on the Shaksperian Collection, from the Examining Committee, and the Librarian, the latter followed by elaborate statistical tables. Two members of the Examining Committee present a minority report, in which they urge that greater care should be taken to keep immoral books out of the hands of minors. The majority of the Committee "do not find any such condition of affairs as is intimated in the Minority Report, nor do they think that it belongs to the Trustees to relieve parents of a proper care for the reading of their children."

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

The Book-Lover's Enchiridion. Thoughts on the Solace and Companionship of Books. Selected and chronologically arranged by Philobiblos. [Manchester: printed by A. Ireland & Co.] 1883. 32mo, pp. xii.-237.

A not uninteresting compilation, though there are too many long extracts from undistinguished and platitudinous essayists. The writer claims the merit of having gone to the original sources, but it is impossible to say much for his sources or his accuracy, when on his first page we find him quoting the famous inscription on the Library of Osymandyas as an "inscription on the Library at Alexandria, founded about 300 B.C.; destroyed A.D. 640,"—quite a nest of blunders,—and gravely offering as his *source* "I. D'Israeli's Curiosities of Literature."

Catalogue of Law Books published for Sale by William Gould and Son, Law Booksellers and Publishers. Second Issue. Albany, N. Y., 1882. 8vo, pp. iii.-374, sheep.

The nucleus of this catalogue, we are told, was prepared by the Hon. Nathaniel C. Moak for the use of his students at the Albany Law School, so that it is "a catalogue prepared by a lawyer, for use by lawyers, rather than a bookseller's catalogue." However true this may have been of the "nucleus," we hardly find it true of the book now noticed. At the same time there is a good deal of miscellaneous information as to reports, &c. likely to be of use to the lawyer as well as to the bookseller.

Guide de l'Amateur. Bibliographie des ouvrages illustrés du XIX^e siècle, principalement des livres à gravures sur bois; par Jules Brivois. Paris: L. Conquet, 1882. 8vo, pp. xiii.-468. Price 25 frs.

Confined to French books, of which about 600 are described. The titles are given at length, with lists of plates and other illustrations, and any particulars as to varieties of impression which may be necessary.

Bibliotheca Scriptorum Classicorum; herausgegeben von Wilhelm Engelmann. Achte Auflage, umfassend die Literatur von 1700 bis 1878, neu bearbeitet, von Dr. E. Preuss. Zweite Abtheilung: Scriptores Latini. Leipzig: W. Engelmann, 1882. 8vo, pp. iv.-771. Price 20 m.

The first part devoted to Greek writers appeared in 1880. The titles are given in full, with contents of volumes, publisher's names and prices. Lists of illustrative works are added to each author. This valuable bibliography is absolutely necessary in any library possessing Greek and Latin books.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A FREE LIBRARY FOR ABERDEEN.

A Report of the year's work, and a special Memorandum issued by the Directors of the Aberdeen Mechanics' Institution, bearing on a suggestion made in that Report, have been sent to me; I enclose them to you with a few comments. The proverbial caution of the Scot is more marked in Aberdeen than anywhere else in Scotland; a certain sharpness also in the race is very pronounced. As schoolmen they are foremost; sound, broad and liberal education is abundant and procurable by all, at less cost than is common in England. The number of young men and women who in evening classes try to supplement and advance the knowledge they have already got, is, for the size of the city, very large indeed. Over 1,100 attend one place of instruction, we observe, yet this city of 100,000 inhabitants is without a Free Library, and its artizans and poor students can get the use of no books of reference when required by either, unless, by a money deposit to the University of Aberdeen, which neither can afford to make. Already, on the basis of an old bequest, something like £6,000 a year of an endowment, is carrying on energetically a technical school at Robert Gordon's College, and the Directors of the Mechanics' Institution of Aberdeen are very sensibly alive to the further advantages in store for poor students and artizans, when they make the following offer of "Property and Funds applicable for Library purposes to be made over to Town Council, contingently on the adoption of the Free Library and Museum Acts, and prior to the amalgamation of the Mechanics' Institution with Robert Gordon's College becoming operative.

"Value of Books in the Library	£1,027	3	0
Do. of Shelving, Presses, and Fittings...	105	0	0
Proportion of General Estate to be dealt } with as held for Library purposes }	2,640	0	0
	£3,772	3	0"

We shall watch with no little interest the result of this wise resolve and offer of the Directors of this old Library. The nucleus of a good general Library and a Building is, we think, a large inducement to any Borough to take advantage of the Acts by which their educational means may be rendered complete.—E.

CAUTION.

A man who calls himself Thomas Clements George, and who is very likely the same as the person described in M. N. iii. 80, is now going the round of the London librarians for the purpose of begging. He represents himself as having been employed in the Manchester Free Library, and has the names of the provincial librarians very glibly. Mr. Sutton has written to say that he is an impostor.—W.

. The Editor regrets that he is unable to find room for several communications.

LONDON: Printed and Sold for the Association by J. DAVY & SONS,
Dryden Press, 137, Long Acre.
Single Numbers, Threepence each. Annual Subscription, post free, 3s. 6d.